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**COLOMBIAN DRUG KINGPIN SENTENCED TO 235 MONTHS' IMPRISONMENT
AND FORFEITURE OF \$25 MILLION FOR SENDING
TONS OF COCAINE INTO NEW YORK CITY**

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that FERNANDO HENAO-MONTOYA, the supervisor of a Colombian narcotics-trafficking organization responsible for sending tons of cocaine from Colombia to New York City, was sentenced today in Manhattan federal court to 235 months' imprisonment and the forfeiture of \$25 million in narcotics proceeds.

According to the Indictment, the Government's recitation of the evidence at the guilty plea proceedings, and other court papers filed by the Government, FERNANDO HENAO-MONTOYA is the younger brother of ORLANDO HENAO-MONTOYA, now deceased, and ARCHANGEL HENAO-MONTOYA, two notorious bosses of Colombian narcotics-trafficking organizations responsible for the importation of thousands of kilograms of cocaine from South

America into the United States during the 1990s. By 1993 or 1994, FERNANDO HENAO-MONTOYA himself became directly involved in the family business of importation and distribution of ton-quantity cocaine loads into and within the United States. The charge for which FERNANDO HENAO-MONTOYA was sentenced today involved a load of approximately 5,000 kilograms of cocaine sent from Colombia to New York City in late 1998 or early 1999. After the cocaine was distributed, FERNANDO HENAO-MONTOYA instructed a trusted lieutenant of his organization to travel to Mexico and then to New York to supervise the collection of his \$25 million share of the proceeds from the 5,000-kilogram cocaine load, according to the Government. FERNANDO HENAO-MONTOYA's lieutenant carried out the order - collecting millions of dollars of cocaine proceeds from the streets of Manhattan - and arranged for the delivery of the narcotics proceeds back to FERNANDO HENAO-MONTOYA in Colombia.

FERNANDO HENAO-MONTOYA's sentence today was the result of a 3 ½-year-long investigation led by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (the "FBI") in conjunction with the New York OCDEF Strike Force, which is comprised of law enforcement officers from the United States Drug Enforcement Administration, the FBI, the Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Internal Revenue Service, the United States Marshal's Service, the New York City Police Department,

and the New York State Police. The OCDETF Strike Force's mission is to identify, investigate, and dismantle the world's most powerful narcotics-trafficking organizations.

Mr. KELLEY praised the investigative efforts of the FBI and the New York OCDETF Strike Force.

Assistant United States Attorneys BOYD M. JOHNSON III and KEVIN PUVALOWSKI are in charge of the prosecution.

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